

# News from Savannah River National Laboratory

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## **Savannah River National Laboratory names Panel Members for Chemical Vapor, Worker Protection Study**

AIKEN, SC (June 23, 2014) – At the request of Washington River Protection Solutions (WRPS), the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) has assembled a team of recognized experts to perform an independent review of the chemical vapors program at the Hanford nuclear waste cleanup site in Washington state. WRPS is the Department of Energy contractor responsible for management and cleanup of nuclear and hazardous waste currently stored in underground tanks at Hanford.

The team is comprised of members from academia, industry, and government agencies, and includes a representative of the Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council.

The team will be chaired by Dr. Bill Wilmarth, a senior scientist at SRNL. Dr. Wilmarth has 25 years of experience in nuclear material processing and over 15 years of experience in high level radioactive waste storage and processing.

The vice-chairman will be Dr. Andrew Maier an Associate Professor at the University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine, Department of Environmental Health. Dr. Maier is a Diplomat of the American Board of Toxicology, and a Toxicology Fellow for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. His research focuses on occupational risk assessment methods and tools.



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Team members also include a former Administrator of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, former member and consultant to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Science Advisory Board, and fellow and former president of the American Industrial Hygiene Association. In addition, the team assembled brings a wide range of knowledge and expertise across many disciplines including the fields of air emission releases from storage tanks, worker safety, risk assessments, and biological monitoring and modeling.

"The team members are internationally recognized leaders in their fields, and I appreciate their willingness to provide a fresh look at Hanford tank farm occupational health and safety," said Wilmarth. "Our goal is to provide a set of independent recommendations that will help to reduce the likelihood of chemical exposures, and will improve overall workplace safety."

The team will assess the current situation with regard to chemical vapor exposure; review the current industrial hygiene program as it relates to chemical vapor exposure; and, provide recommendations and identify further enhancements to the WRPS programs and practices to eliminate or minimize worker exposure. The team will include a full assessment of the response to two prior technical reviews conducted in 2008 and 2010.

The team is expected to provide a draft report by the end of summer and complete their final report by December. DOE will release both reports unaltered to the public. A list of team members is attached.

SRNL is a multi-program applied research and development laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy that is managed and operated by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions. For more information, visit <http://srnl.doe.gov>.

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## Hanford Tank Vapor Assessment Team

•**Dr. Bill Wilmarth**, Ph.D., (Chair)

- Senior Advisory Scientist, Savannah River National Laboratory
- 25 years nuclear material processing experience
- Over 15 years High Level Radioactive Waste storage and processing experience

•**Dr. Andrew Maier**, Ph.D., CIH, DABT (Vice Chair)

- Associate Professor, University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine, Department of Environmental Health
- Diplomat of the American Board of Toxicology
- Toxicology Fellow, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

•**Dr. Tom Armstrong**, Ph.D., CIH

- Principal Investigator TWA8HR Occupational Hygiene Consulting, LLC.
- Industrial Experience with ExxonMobil Biomedical Sciences, Inc., The BOC Group, Allied Chemical Company
- Adjunct Professor, Drexel University School of Public Health
- Member on two National Academy of Science Committees evaluating risk assessment of national infectious disease research laboratories

•**Robert Ferry**, M.S., P.E.

- Co-Founder, The TGB Partnership
- Expert in air emission releases from storage tanks including estimating, permit and compliance issues, etc.
- Published over 80 papers and presentations on Storage Tanks
- Significant interactions with American Petroleum Institute and has experience working with ExxonMobil, Environmental Protection Agency, BP Amoco



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## •John L. Henshaw, MPH, CIH

- Senior Vice President Cardno ChemRisk
- Former Administrator of Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- Industrial Experience with Astaris, Solutia, Monsanto
- Fellow and former President of the American Industrial Hygiene Association
  - Assisted by **Matthew H. Le**, MPH, CIH, CSP
  - Supervising Health Scientist/Regional Unit Manager, Cardno ChemRisk
  - President of Genetic and Environmental Toxicology Association of Northern California
  - Discipline Areas include Industrial Hygiene, Health Physics, Exposure Assessment and Dose Reconstruction, Risk Assessment, and Risk Communication

## •Rebecca A. Holland

- Health Physics Technologist with 28 years of experience
- Active member of Hanford Advisory Board and Chairperson for the Health Safety and Environmental Protection Committee
- Served for nine years as a Recording Secretary for Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council

## •Dr. Michael Jayjock, Ph.D., CIH

- Proprietor, Jayjock Associates, LLC.
- Former Senior Research and EHS Fellow and Manager, Risk Assessment for Rohm and Haas Company
- Fellow American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)
- Former Member and Consultant to the US Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board
- AIHA Committee on Exposure Assessment Strategies, Exposure Strategies Modeling Subcommittee, Committee on Risk Assessment, and Low-Dose Estimation Task Group

## •Dr. Jim Rock, Ph.D., CIH, P.E.

- Vice President, TUPE, Inc.
- Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Safety Engineering, Nuclear Engineering Department, Texas A&M
- Fellow and former President of the American Industrial Hygiene Association



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•**Dr. Charles Timchalk, Ph.D., DABT**

- Staff Member, Center for Biological Monitoring and Modeling, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- Diplomat of the American Board of Toxicology
- Former Research Leader, Pharmacokinetics and Metabolism Group, The Dow Chemical Company

Note on Acronyms:

CIH – Certified Industrial Hygienist

DABT – Diplomat, American Board of Toxicology

CSP – Certified Safety Professional



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